

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

VOL. XXX. NO. 36.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1912.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

MAYOR'S MESSAGE.

REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS OF THE PAST YEAR.

Prospectus for 1912—The Financial Situation—Some Municipal Needs

Mayor William Hauser's annual message was presented at the Town Council meeting Monday and was as follows:

GENTLEMEN:—Agreeable to a custom which has existed for some time past, I am pleased to submit herewith my suggestions and recommendations respecting matters meriting your attention during the coming year. These recommendations are submitted in the belief that they will materially aid in furthering the progress of this town.

ROADS.
With the completion of the D. L. & W. R. R. improvements, the serious problem of providing proper approaches to the stations and for the general improvement of the Centre presents itself. My recommendations regarding these questions are as follows:

First: Speedy action in the preparation and enacting of suitable ordinances providing for all necessary connections, whether gas, water or sewer, to each lot upon Bloomfield avenue throughout its entire length; Glenwood avenue from Bloomfield avenue to at least Henry street; Washington street from Glenwood avenue to Thomas street; Broad street from Bloomfield avenue to Liberty street, and Orange street for its entire length.

Second: The consideration and adoption of some suitable and durable paving material, and for the repaving of all of these streets, excepting of course Bloomfield avenue, which will be attended to by the county authorities without delay.

Third: Immediate action towards the change of grading and repaving of Washington and Orange streets at the approaches to the railroad bridges.

Fourth: The discontinuance of the promiscuous use of clay binder in the resurfacing of old or building of new roads.

Fifth: The raising of all cross-walks to a sufficient height above the road level to prevent their being made pocket-traps for water.

Sixth: The thorough cleaning of all streets before the application of any oil, and the discontinuance of the use of heavy oil.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The department has been greatly improved by the addition of a combination chemical hose wagon. The replacement of the Montgomery Hose House is under consideration, and should be hastened to completion. Some relief is being provided for at Brookdale, and will no doubt be appreciated. The following recommendations are herewith submitted:

1. Periodical and thorough inspection of the equipment of the various houses and at least one general inspection each year.

2. The purchasing of a sufficient number of good horses to be placed at various hose houses, and particularly at Excelsior Hose Company's house.

3. The extension of the fire alarm box system to include the upper section of the Second ward.

TOWN SUPPLIES.

The recommendation made last January for the purchasing of supplies for the various departments through competition is herewith repeated, as it is considered of sufficient importance. It is also recommended that strict account be kept of all supplies purchased and reports made at regular intervals showing the distribution of same.

BUILDINGS AND FIRE LIMITS.

With the increased amount of building done during the past year and now under way, the matter of fire limits has become of great importance. The previous council has had the proposed extension of the fire limits under advisement, but owing to the press of other matters, action has been delayed. This matter should now be promptly disposed of, for two reasons: 1. In order to prevent any additional fire risk in the business sections; and 2. To bring about the erection of buildings of a permanent character in order to raise the standard of the town. No more frame buildings should be permitted to be erected on Bloomfield avenue north of Orange street as far as the Glen Ridge line.

STREET LIGHTING.

The attention of the committee is directed to the necessity of bringing pressure to bear on the Public Service Corporation to install without delay the new lamps provided for in the contract recently signed. It is also recommended that where it may be found necessary and advisable, the location of the present lights be changed and readjusted so as to obtain the best possible results without increasing the number of lights.

POLICE.

This problem is one of the most serious confronting the present administration. The police committee has done its very best with the material it has had available, and no censure should be directed at that committee. The department needs thorough revision and reorganization. A higher degree of intelligence and education should be required of all applicants, and the fact be made known that the position is one of responsibility and earnest work. In this connection, the suggestion of the chairman of the police committee for the preparation and adoption of a set of proper rules which are to be enforced is heartily concurred in. The following recommendations are also submitted:

1. The providing and maintaining of a proper police station, having the recorder's court separate from the detention room. The question of a proper building will be referred to later on.

2. The installing of an adequate call box system similar to that used in Montclair, which, by reason of the smaller equipment needed, will not cost as much as in the town above mentioned. This will require compulsory reports from each officer at stated times from the box on his beat.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The question of a proper town hall has been heretofore laid before you on various occasions. The necessity for such a building still exists and increases daily. The town is now paying a considerable rental for the use of the town hall, which it now occupies, for the police station and other rented property. With a trifling sum added to our present total expense, the interest on an issue of \$50,000 of 4 per cent. bonds could be paid. A sinking fund would take care of the redemption of these bonds, and the total amount added to the tax budget each year would scarcely be felt. With \$50,000, a suitable site can be obtained, and a building erected of which the town could be proud, and which would house not only the Town Council and the town clerk, treasurer and engineer, but also the Board of Health, the water department and other departments, and could also accommodate the police station and recorder's court. No suggestion is offered as to where this proposed town hall should be erected, leaving that for general consideration. A casual inspection of this room will prove the necessity for a speedy change.

FINANCES.

The administration of 1911 was seriously handicapped by a lack of funds, and with the completion of a number of matters left over by the administration of 1910, the drain upon the town's treasury has been heavy. The park lands, upon which no work has yet been done, have cost the town \$80,000, instead of \$30,000, the second \$30,000 of which has been carried until recently as a part of the floating indebtedness, paying 5 per cent. This has now been disposed of by a bond issue at 4 per cent. In view of the large amount of the floating indebtedness of the town, it is again recommended that a large proportion or all of such indebtedness be cancelled as early as possible by the issue of bonds bearing interest at not over 4 per cent., whereby a considerable saving can be made yearly.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

During the first half of this year the one hundredth anniversary of the town of Bloomfield will be celebrated. Much labor has been put upon this project, and much more remains to be done. It is but proper to request not only members of the council, but all of the citizens of this town, to give their aid and assistance in every conceivable way towards making this celebration an unbounded success. With the work that has heretofore been outlined, a grand opportunity presents itself to bring this town into the line of light, to be submitted to favorable inspection and criticism. There should be a general joining of hands to make this celebration one long to be remembered.

Immediately after the organization meeting of 1911, the mayor introduced Saturday afternoon meetings at the town hall for the purpose of giving all citizens an opportunity to submit complaints or suggestions or to obtain information or advice. It is a matter of regret that but few of our citizens have availed themselves of these opportunities. Devoting Saturday afternoons to this purpose has meant a great sacrifice, but it will be continued if it is desired by our citizens. It is the intention of the mayor to attend at the town hall as heretofore for the next two months for the purpose of ascertaining whether any good can be obtained by such continuance, and if it appears that no good purpose is served, these meetings will be discontinued after due notice.

In conclusion, let me say that on the occasion of the previous organization meeting, I stated that Bloomfield was entering upon a new existence, without any hesitation, as it is apparent that substantial progress has been made, and with your hearty assistance and co-operation, as well as that of the citizens of the town, the year 1912 will constitute the banner year of our existence.

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION.

Only One Change in the Appointments to Official Positions—Fred B. Stimus Succeeds J. R. Maxwell as Superintendent of Public Works—Sub-Committees Named.

There was a large attendance of interested spectators at the organization meeting of the Town Council on Monday. Rumors of changes in the appointive offices were in circulation Saturday and Sunday and occasioned considerable interest among those who take an active part in politics. Those who attended the meeting with the expectation of witnessing sweeping changes were disappointed, for only one change was made in the list of appointees, and that was the appointment of Fred B. Stimus of the Second ward superintendent of public works in place of J. Richard Maxwell of the Third ward. Mr. Sadler nominated Mr. Stimus and he was chosen by a vote of six to one. Mr. Unangst alone voting for Maxwell.

Charles F. Kocher was reappointed town attorney; Ernest Baechlin, town engineer; William R. Raab, member of the Board of Assessors; William R. Rawson, superintendent of the water department; Dr. John D. Moore, town physician. Under a new law relating to the appointment of overseer of the poor Adam Lind was appointed to that office for a term of five years. Seymour P. Gilbert and Dr. J. Wolfe were reappointed members of the Board of Health.

The Bloomfield CITIZEN was again named as the official town paper. The council meetings will be held on the first and third Monday evenings of the month.

Mayor Hauser announced his appointment of sub-committees as follows: Building—Unangst, Albionson, Hummel, finance—Murray, Sadler, Albionson; fire—Unangst, Sadler, Harris, light—Albionson, Sadler, Harris; law—Hummel, Albionson; ordinance—Unangst, Harris; police—Harris, Albionson; poor—Sadler, Harris; public grounds—Harris, Albionson; roads—Hummel, Albionson, Harris; railroads and transportation—Hummel, Sadler, Murray; scavenger—Hummel, Albionson, Hummel; water—Sadler, Murray, Harris; sidewalks—Albionson, Hummel, Murray; water—Murray, Hummel, Sadler.

A Tragic Death.

Samuel Maxwell, aged twenty-eight years, residing at 49 Myrtle avenue, this town, and an employee of the Public Service Lighting Company, was killed on Monday morning in River street, Newark, while attempting to remove a highly charged electric wire that had fallen in the street. Maxwell had finished his work and was on his way home when the accident happened. Harry Lighton and John Boyle of Newark, two fellow workmen, were with him. At Coal and River streets they found the live wire on the ground and Maxwell, according to the story told to the Newark police, put his hand in his overcoat pocket, evidently believing that the cloth would save him from a shock. As soon as he touched the wire he was wheeled about and the wire came in contact with a silk handkerchief he had on his neck. The wire burned through to the skin. His left hand was terribly burned, almost severed. One of the fingers dropped to the ground.

Maxwell was carried into the office of the company and the City Hospital ambulance was summoned. The doctor pronounced the man dead. After County Physician McKenzie viewed the body it was removed to the morgue.

Maxwell came to this country a short time after his marriage, a year ago. He looked for work as a chemist, but when he was offered a position in the Coal street station of the Public Service Electric Company he took it. He was pleased with the progress he was making and recently he wrote to his father in Glasgow, Scotland, telling of his good fortune and wishing him a happy New Year.

Mrs. Maxwell made arrangements at Mullin's morgue for them to hold the body for two weeks. She also sent a telegram to her husband's father, informing him of the death and explaining that she would return to Scotland with the body for burial.

Death of Frank Zergiebel.

Frank Zergiebel, 51, aged sixty-four years, a well known resident of the Second ward, died at his home, 53 Osborne street, on Saturday of last week. The funeral service was held from his late home on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Zergiebel was a member of Franz Siegel Company, No. 12.

Safe Deposit Boxes.

You are invited to call and inspect our Safe Deposit Boxes in our Burglar and Fire Proof Vault. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per annum. The Bloomfield National Bank—Adv.

FACED A BURGLAR.

Exciting Experience That Cashier Knolhoff of the Trust Company Had at His Home in East Orange When He Found a Burglar in His House.

F. William Knolhoff, cashier of the Bloomfield Trust Company, had the sensational experience Wednesday evening of facing the muzzle of a burglar's revolver. Mr. Knolhoff did not stand long in his perilous position, but rushed down stairs for his own revolver, and in the meantime the burglar made his exit from the house and jumped to the ground from the roof of a high porch and ran off with \$2,500 worth of booty, consisting of money and jewelry. The exciting incident took place about 7 o'clock in the evening and while the family was at dinner on the first floor the burglar was busy on the second floor.

Mr. Knolhoff and his wife and child live with Mr. Cassidy at 123 Harrison street, near Central avenue, East Orange. Wednesday evening, after dinner, Mr. Knolhoff, at his wife's request, went upstairs to see if the baby was still sleeping. When he reached the baby's room he heard a noise in an adjoining room, but took it for granted that it was one of the maids of the household at work in the room. The noise continued and was of such an unusual character that Mr. Knolhoff called the maid by name, and receiving no answer he started for the room to make a personal investigation, but before he reached the door a man stepped from the room into the hallway and stood with his hands in his coat pockets coolly staring at Mr. Knolhoff. Both men stood stock still and looked one another over.

The burglar was the first to break the silence and said to Mr. Knolhoff, "come here a moment." When the latter started to move the burglar quickly covered him with a revolver. Mr. Knolhoff sprang from out of range of the weapon and rushed down stairs for his own revolver, and the burglar quickly made his escape from the house as told above, and before any of the family reached the sidewalk two men were seen by a man on the street hurrying away from the locality.

The East Orange police department was immediately called up, but it was considerable time before an officer arrived and too late to get on the track of the thieves. The thief who entered the house did his work in a very deliberate manner and took only such articles as he could conveniently carry in his pockets.

The Sido Case.

Unless Louis Sido hereafter pays his wife, Mrs. Emelie Sido, \$8 a week for the support of herself and two sons, twelve and fifteen years old, pending the trial of a separate maintenance suit instituted by Mrs. Sido, a more efficacious alimony order will be made for a larger amount.

Another condition informally imposed by Vice-Chancellor Stevens, before whom the matter was heard, was that Sido must quit causing the arrest of Recorder Cadmus for attempting to enforce an order made by him last March directing Sido to pay his wife \$10 a week.

In a petition filed in Mrs. Sido's behalf by Gifford & Miller it was set out that Mrs. Sido left her husband February 27 last after scenes of violence described in an affidavit by the older son, and has ever since been living apart from him.

It transpired that for the last seven or eight weeks Sido has been sending to Recorder Cadmus certified checks for \$5 a week for the use of his wife, but that Mrs. Sido declines to accept the checks. When Sido was several times arrested for failure to comply with Recorder Cadmus's order, he countered by having Cadmus arrested on a charge of conspiracy.

Men's Class Banquet.

Guests to the number of eighty attended the annual banquet of the Men's Bible Class of the Watessing Methodist Church Saturday night. Alfred H. Edgerley, the class teacher, acted as toastmaster. Toasts were responded to by Rev. J. Wm. Ryder, E. B. Griffith, John Pollitt and Mr. Edgerley.

Christ Episcopal Church.

The music at the services in the Christ Episcopal Church to-morrow will be as follows: 11.00, morning service, Communion service in E flat, Eyre; offertory anthem, "O Holy Night." Adam; 4.30, afternoon service, Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, Claire; offertory anthem, "O Come to My Heart Lord Jesus." Nevin.

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Glen Ridge Council.

The Glen Ridge Borough Council organized for the year 1912 on Monday when Mayor Giles W. Mead retired from office and Mayor-elect David H. Standish assumed office. Before leaving the official chair Mayor Mead urged a loyal support on the part of his former colleagues to his successor in office.

Mayor Standish named the chairmen of the following standing committees: Police, Lord; fire, Root; water and light, Skillen; law and ordinance, Hynes; streets and sewers, Best; finance, Ames.

The following appointments were made: President of the council, Levi Best; borough clerk, John A. Brown; recorder, W. E. Smith; poundmaster, Carl Sachs; dog warden, Patrick Higgins; marshals, Henry K. Benson, Dr. H. C. Harris and John H. Mylod; members of the uniformed police, Patrick Higgins, chief; John Egan, Thomas Carthy, William P. Higgins and Patrick Dugan; borough attorney, James P. Mylod; paid fireman, J. H. Cavanaugh; sinking fund commissioner, for three years, E. N. Bristol; overseer of the poor, for five years, Frank E. Delano; superintendent of buildings, Robert E. Moss; building inspector, J. A. Brown.

The salaries of the various officials were fixed as follows: Borough clerk, \$1,200; recorder, \$250; dog warden, 25 cents for each license issued; overseer of the poor, \$100 per year; chief of police, \$90 per month; patrolmen, \$75 per month; attorney, \$400 per year; inspector of buildings, 25 per cent. of the fees received from permits; assessor and collector, \$800 per annum each.

The second Monday of each month was fixed as the regular meeting night of the council.

Union Service.

A union service of the Evangelical Union will be held Sunday evening at 7.45 in the First Presbyterian Church.

The First Presbyterian, Westminster Presbyterian, Park Avenue Presbyterian, Park M. E., Glen Ridge Congregational and First Baptist Churches will join in this service. Rev. Roy Bergen Guild, D. D., executive secretary of the Men and Religion Forward Movement, will speak on "Equal to the Occasion." The music will be by the choir of the First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Guild is much sought after as a speaker and the committee found difficulty in securing him for the service. The meeting will be of special interest to men.

The mid-week service of the Evangelical Union will be held in the new parish house of the Park M. E. Church. Mr. James M. Speers of Montclair will be the speaker. Mr. Speers is at the head of the Men and Religion Forward Movement and will speak on "The Message of the Movement."

Free Public Lecture.

The first public lecture of the New Year in the free course offered by the Board of Education will be given on Friday evening, January 12, at 8 o'clock in Centre School, Liberty street. The lecturer of the evening is an old friend, as it will be his third year of lecturing in the Bloomfield free public course. Mr. Robert G. Weyk, jr., entertained us so splendidly in 1910 and 1911 that we know his third visit will prove just as big a treat as the preceding ones. "California," illustrated, will be the subject for the evening. The public may feel sure of an hour of instruction and entertainment.

Board of Education.

Acting in accord with the new school law Mayor Hauser on Tuesday night named the following citizens as members of the Board of Education: Thomas Oakes, Charles W. Martin and James E. Brown for the three-year term; Frederick M. Davis, Morgan D. Hughes and Frederic R. Pilch for the two-year term; Clarence Van Winkle, William A. Baldwin and Arthur A. Ellor, Jr., for the one-year term. Town Clerk Davis was instructed to notify the above named of their appointment. Messrs. Oakes, Martin and Baldwin are present members of the Board of Education.

Entertainment.

The third annual entertainment of the Church of the Ascension will be given in Central Hall on Wednesday evening, January 17. The programme will consist of recitations, vocal and instrumental music and two farces, "A Matrimonial Agency" and "A Box of Monkeys." Mr. E. V. Whigham's orchestra will furnish music for dancing, which will follow the programme.

Church of the Ascension.

The following is the order of services in the Church of the Ascension to-morrow: Holy communion, 8 a. m.; holy communion and sermon, 10.30 a. m.; Sunday-school, 12 m.; evening prayer and sermon, 8 p. m. Good music. Seats free. All welcome.

Dr. C. J. Neff, Surgeon Chiropodist, treats all feet ailments. Office room No. 2 Trust Company building—Adv.

APPLICATION RENEWED

FOR A DOUBLE TRACK ON GLENWOOD AVENUE

By the Public Service Railway Company—A Job for the New Sub-Committee—Transfer Matter Discussed.

General E. W. Hine, secretary of the Public Service Corporation, made application to the Town Council on behalf of the Public Service Railway Company Tuesday night for permission to lay a double track on Glenwood avenue between the Centre and Henry street. The request was presented in the usual complete form followed by the Public Service Railway Company, the ordinance was framed up and a map accompanied it, and in making the application General Hine said that if the council was disposed to give favorable consideration to the matter he would like to have it proceeded with as expeditiously as possible. The object of making the application, according to General Hine, was to enable the company to better the service of the Crosstown line. It was impossible, he said, to give adequate service on a line where turnouts were depended upon for cars to pass. The overhead structure of the Lackawanna Railroad over Glenwood avenue made it more necessary than ever that a double track be laid.

The first step taken by the mayor and councilmen in the matter was to make an inspection of the map to ascertain the space that would be left between the rails and the curb if a double track was laid on the avenue.

Mr. Unangst said that the property owners in the block between the Centre and the railroad were not opposed to a double track, providing it could be laid and give a sufficient clearance of roadway, and which Mr. Unangst said could be obtained by reducing the width of the sidewalk.

Mayor Hauser asked General Hine what the Public Service Railroad Company proposed to do for the town in return for the present.

General Hine wanted to know why the Public Service Company should do anything for the town beyond furnishing good transportation service.

The mayor replied that by asking why the town should do anything for the Public Service Railroad Company.

Mr. Murray said that it seemed to him that the desire of the Public Service Railroad Company was to give better service, rearrange its car schedule and run more cars, but he failed to see where the double track was to be of any material benefit to the people of the town, but he could see where it would be of benefit to the large number of people from the Oranges who went to Newark by way of the Crosstown and Bloomfield avenue lines, and that could be accomplished by turning cars into Conger street to Bloomfield avenue.

Mr. Murray said that the benefit to this town would be an extension of the Broad street line to Brookdale and their converting of a single track into a double track by the connecting up of sidings appeared to furnish a way of getting over the franchise law that the company claimed made it impossible to extend their line to Brookdale.

Mr. Murray thought that the proper action to take would be to refer the application to the committee on railroads and transportation for an investigation and report.

Mr. Hummel said that when the Glenwood avenue double track was before the council not long ago the principal subject of consideration was the paving of the avenue and the Public Service Company made what was considered a fair proposition.

Mr. Sadler said he would be willing to favor the proposition providing the company would agree to pave the Centre and Glenwood avenue from curb to curb.

General Hine said that the company could not stand any such pressure.

Mr. Murray said that the value of the permit that the town was asked to give the company could not be measured in dollars and cents. To grant the permit meant to give up the street for all time.

Mr. Unangst asked General Hine why the company did not apply to the Orange and East Orange councils for a permit to double track parts of the Crosstown line in those two places, and he also wanted to know if the company would pay for the recurb of Glenwood avenue if the sidewalk lines were changed.

General Hine said that it was not an absolute necessity that the company have a double track on Glenwood avenue. It could get along with its present single track if it had to, but there would be no chance of any improvement in the service.

In reply to a question from the mayor as to the particular benefit to be derived from the short line of double track proposed, General Hine said that the benefit was only relative and was a step in the direction of the improvement of the service.

The application was referred to the railroad and transportation committee.